

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): A plasticizer composition ~~for nitrocellulose-based resins~~ comprising: (i) at least one isobutanol ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 12, wherein, the composition is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 12, wherein, the weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is within the range 65:35 to 55:45.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 12, wherein, the composition consists of (i) and (ii) as plasticizing agents.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method of plasticizing a nitrocellulose containing resin composition which comprises: incorporating into the resin composition a plasticizing amount of a plasticizer composition comprising: (i) at least one ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Appl. No.: 10/536,544
Response dated May 8, 2007
Reply to Office action of January 11, 2007

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method according to claim 16, wherein, the composition is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method according to claim 16, wherein, the weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is from 65:35 to 55:45.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method according to claim 16, wherein, the plasticizer composition consists of (i) and (ii) as plasticizing agents.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A nitrocellulose based paint comprising (a) 100 parts by weight of at least one nitrocellulose resin, (b) 100 to 200 parts by weight of an alkyd resin and (c) 0.1 to 30 parts of a plasticizer composition comprising (i) at least one isobutanol ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The nitrocellulose based paint according to claim 20, wherein, the paint is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The nitrocellulose based paint according to claim 20, wherein, the plasticizer composition consists of (i) and (ii) as plasticizing agents.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 13, wherein, the weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is within the range 65:35 to 55:45.

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Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein, the weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is from 65:35 to 55:45.